

timeline, p ix-x

1 1800's

1.1 **1823** Charles Babbage begins work on the first of his machines to mechanize solutions to general algebra problems

1.2 **1885** Allan Marquand designs an electric logic machine

1.3 **1890** Herman Hollerith designs a tabulating machine

2 1900-1939

2.1 **1924** Computing-Tabulating-Recording becomes International Business Machines

2.2 **1930** Claude Shannon's Ph.D. thesis explains how electrical switching circuits can

model boolean logic

2.3 **1936** Benjamin Burack builds the first electric logic machine

3 1940's

3.1 **1940** John Atansoff and Clifford Berry design a computer with vacuum tubes as

switching units

3.2 **1943-1946** John Mauchley, J. Presper Eckert, and John Von Neumann build ENIAC, the

first all-electronic digital computer

3.3 **1947** The transistor is perfected

4 1950's

4.1 **1955** Shockley Semiconductor founded in Palo Alto

4.2 **1956** John Bardeen, Walter Brattain, and William Shockley share the Nobel Prize in

physics for the transistor

4.3 **1957** Fairchild Semiconductor founded

4.4 **1959** Lee Felsenstein fails in his first attempt to design a computer

5 1960's

5.1 1962

5.1.1 Tandy Corp. buys a chain of Radio Shack electronics stores

5.1.2 Stephen Wozniak builds an addition and subtraction machine that wins a prize in a local

science fair

5.2 1964 John Kemeny and Thomas Kurtz of Dartmouth College develop the 1st BASIC

5.3 1967 Todd Fisher quits his job as an IBM repairer

5.4 1968

5.4.1 Ed Roberts founds an electronics company called Micro Instrumentation Systems (MITS)

5.4.2 Intel founded

5.5 1969

5.5.1 Intel receives commission to produce ICs for a line of Japanese calculators

5.5.2 Lee Felsenstein leaves Ampex to write for the Berkeley Barb

5.5.3 Data General releases the Nova

5.5.4 Intel decides to build the first microprocessor: the 4004; Ted Hoff, Stan Mazer, Robert

Noyce, and Federico Faggin execute the project

6 1971

6.1 Intel develops the 8008

6.2 Stephen Wozniak and Bill Fernandez build their "Cream Soda Computer"

7 1972

7.1 Gary Kildall writes PL/I, the 1st programming language for the 4004

People's Computer Company (PCC) founded

7.2 People's Computer Company (PCC) founded

7.3 Bill Gates and Paul Allen form Traf-O-Data

7.4 Stephen Wozniak and Steven Jobs begin selling blue boxes

8 1973

8.1 Stephen Wozniak joins Hewlett-Packard

8.2 The Community Memory Project begins

8.3 Radio Electronics publishes an article by Don Lancaster describing a "TV typewriter"

8.4 Gary Kildall and Ben Cooper build their astrology forecasting machine

9 1974

9.1 Ted Nelson's Computer Lib published

9.2 Intel invents the 8080

9.3 Xerox releases the Alto

9.4 John Torode and Gary Kildall begin selling a microcomputer and disk operating system

9.5 Radio Electronics publishes an article calling the Mark 8 "your personal minicomputer"

10 1975

10.1 MicroSoft (formally Traf-O-Data) writes the 1st BASIC for the Altair

10.2 Popular Electronics publishes an article describing the MITS Altair

10.3 Bob March and Lee Felsenstein rent garage space in Berkeley

10.4 Cromemco founded

10.5 Homebrew Computer Club holds its first meeting

10.6 Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey founded

10.7 Processor Technology formed

Southern California Computer society hold its first meeting

10.8 Southern California Computer society hold its first meeting

10.9 Dick Heiser opens the 1st retail personal coputer outlet, the Computer Store, in L.A.

10.10 First issue of Byte magazine published

10.11 Paul Terrell opens the 1st Byte Shop in Mountain View, CA

11 1976

11.1 Ed Faber joins IMSAI as director of sales. IMSAI begins shipping it 1st computers

11.2 bill Gates' "Open Letter to Hobbyists" lamenting software piracy published

11.3 George Morrow's MicroStuf founded

11.4 The first issue of Dr. Dobb's published

11.5 Data Domain founded

11.6 World Altair Computer Conference held

11.7 Gary Kildall founds Intergalactic Digital Research (later Digital Research)

11.8 Trenton (New Jersey) Computer Festival held

11.9 Kentucky Fried Computers founded

11.10 Midwest Area Computer Club conference held

11.11 Steve Leininger and Don French begin work on Radio Shack's 1st microcomputer

11.12 Processor Technology's Sol appears on the cover of Popular Electronics

11.13 Stephen Wozniak demonstrates the Apple I at Homebrew Computer Club

11.14 Personal Computing Festival held in Atlantic City

11.15 S100 Bus named

11.16 ComputerLand incorporates

Mike Markkula visits Steven Job's garage

11.17 Mike Markkula visits Steven Job's garage

11.18 The first sale of CP/M

11.19 Michael Shroyer creates Electric Pencil

12 1977

12.1 Jonathan Rotenberg founds Boston Computer Society

12.2 David Bunnell begins publishing Personal Computing

12.3 Seymour Rubinstein joins IMSAI as software product marketing manager

12.4 The 1st ComputerLand franchise store opens in Morristown, NJ, as the ComputerShack

12.5 Apple Computer opens its 1st offices in Cupertino

12.6 Community Memory incorporates

12.7 The 1st West Computer Faire is held

12.8 Apple introduces the Apple][

12.9 Commodore introduces the PET computer

12.10 Ed Roberts sells MITS to Pertec

12.11 Tandy/Radio Shack announces its 1st TRS-80 microcomputer

12.12 Adventure International founded

13 1978

13.1 Apple introduces and begins shipping disk drives for the Apple][

13.2 "Black Wednesday" firings at IMSAI

13.3 Apple initiates Lisa research and development project

14 1979

14.1 IMSAI files for bankruptcy

14.2 Steven Jobs visits Xerox PARC

- 14.3 Processor Technology closes
- 14.4 Tandy/Radio Shack announces the TRS-80 Model II
- 14.5 MicroPro releases WordStar
- 14.6 IMSAI closes its doors
- 14.7 Personal Software introduces VisiCalc

15 1980

- 15.1 Hewlett-Packard releases the HP-85
- 15.2 The Apple III is announced
- 15.3 Microsoft signs a consulting agreement w/ IBM to produce an operating system

16 1981

- 16.1 Osborne Computer Corp. incorporates & introduces the Osborne 1, the 1st portable comp.
- 16.2 Steve Wozniak suffers a plane crash
- 16.3 Xerox releases the 8010 Star and 820 computers
- 16.4 IBM announces its Personal Computer

17 1982

- 17.1 Apple Computer announces the Lisa
- 17.2 DEC announces a line of personal computers

18 1983

- 18.1 IBM announces the PCjr
- 18.2 Osborne Computer Corporation files Chapter 11

19 1984

- 19.1 Apple Computer announce the Macintosh

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